

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A system comprising:
a driver adapted to control a network interface card and monitor network access
data; and
a first connection manager adapted to register with the driver and receive
notification data from the driver,
10 wherein the driver provides the notification data to the first connection manager
when the driver detects network access data from a second connection manager.
2. The system of claim 1 further comprising a user interface adapted to receive notification
data from the first connection manager, receive user input from a user, and provide the user input
15 to the first connection manager.
3. The system of claim 1 further comprising a user interface adapted to receive notification
data from the first connection manager, receive user input from a user, provide the user input to
the first connection manager, and display the notification data received from the first connection
20 manager to the user.
4. The system of claim 1, wherein the first connection manager is adapted to unregister with
the driver and the driver is further adapted to stop monitoring network access data.
- 25 5. The system of claim 1, wherein the first connection manager is adapted to unregister with
the driver and the driver is further adapted to stop monitoring network access data when
instructed to do so by a user via a user interface.
6. The system of claim 1, wherein the first connection manager is adapted to unregister with
30 the driver and the driver is further adapted to stop monitoring network access data when required
by a predetermined policy rule.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein the first connection manager is further adapted to disable the second connection manager.

8. The system of claim 1, wherein network access data comprises network driver interface specification (NDIS) object identifiers.

9. A method comprising:

registering a first connection manager with a driver associated with a network interface card;
monitoring network access data from a second connection manager; and
notifying the first connection manager if network access data is detected.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein monitoring network access data from a second connection manager comprises monitoring network driver interface specification (NDIS) object identifiers.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the method further comprises:

unregistering the first connection manager with the driver; and
terminating monitoring network access data from the second connection manager.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein the method further comprises:

disabling the second connection manager from accessing the network interface card via the driver.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein the method further comprises:

displaying the notification received by the first connection manager, wherein the notification is displayed to a user via a user interface.

14. The method of claim 9, wherein the method further comprises:
displaying the notification received by the first connection manager, wherein the notification displays that the second connection manager must be disabled manually by a user and is displayed to the user via a user interface.

5

15. The method of claim 9, wherein the method further comprises:
displaying the notification received by the first connection manager, wherein the notification is displayed to a user via a user interface;
receiving user input from the user interface;
10 determining if user input requires disabling the first connection manager; and
performing a first sequence if user input requires disabling the first connection manager, the first sequence comprising:
unregistering the first connection manager with the driver; and
terminating monitoring network access data from the second connection
15 manager.

16. The method of claim 9, wherein the method further comprises:
if the second connection manager is registered with the driver then unregistering the second connection manager with the driver associated with the network interface card,
20 wherein the unregistering of the second connection manager is prior to registering the first connection manager with the driver associated with the network interface card.

17. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions comprising:
registering a first connection manager with a driver associated with a network
25 interface card;
monitoring network access data from a second connection manager; and
notifying the first connection manager, if network access data is detected.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein monitoring network access data from a second
30 connection manager comprises monitoring network driver interface specification (NDIS) object identifiers.

19. The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the computer-executable instructions further comprise:

unregistering the first connection manager with the driver; and

5 terminating monitoring network access data from the second connection manager.

20. The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the computer-executable instructions further comprise:

disabling the second connection manager from accessing the network interface

10 card via the driver.

21. The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the computer-executable instructions further comprise:

displaying the notification received by the first connection manager, wherein the

15 notification is displayed to a user via a user interface.

22. The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the computer-executable instructions further comprise:

displaying the notification received by the first connection manager, wherein the

20 notification displays that the second connection manager must be disabled manually by a user and is displayed to the user via a user interface.

23. The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the computer-executable instructions further comprise:

displaying the notification received by the first connection manager, wherein the notification is displayed to a user via a user interface;

receiving user input from the user interface;

determining if user input requires disabling the first connection manager; and

30 performing a first sequence if user input requires disabling the first connection manager, the first sequence comprising:

unregistering the first connection manager with the driver; and
terminating monitoring network access data from the second connection
manager.

- 5 24. The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the computer-executable
instructions further comprise:
 if the second connection manager is registered with the driver then unregistering
the second connection manager with the driver associated with the network interface card,
 wherein the unregistering of the second connection manager is prior to registering
10 the first connection manager with the driver associated with the network interface card.